Statement

Incentives and monetary benefits being given by the Central Government to brave military officers

The present monthly monetary allowances of various awards are as under:—

(a)	PVC	-	Rs. 1,5007-
(b)	AC	-	Rs. 1,400/-
(c)	MVC	-	Rs. 1,200/-
(d)	KC	-	Rs. 1,050/-
(e)	VrC	-	Rs. 850/-
(f)	SC	-	Rs. 750/-
(g)	SM(G)		Rs. 250/-

2.Tax exemption to winners of Chakra series Awardees and Sena/Nao Sena/Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry only).

3.Rent Free telephone facility including full concession in installation charges to Chakra series Gallantry Awardees.

4.Issue of 1 st Class/AC 2 Tier Complimentary Card Passes with a companion to recipients of PVC, MVC. VrC in Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Jan Shatabdi Expresses.

5.Winners of AC/KC/SC awards are entitled to I Class/AC 2 Tier of any train other than Rajdhani/Shatabdi/Jan Shatabdi Expresses.

6.75% discount from Indian Airliens of normal economy class INR Fare to ex-Armed Forces Personnel recipients of PVC, AC, MVC and KC.

Assessment of utility of fighter aircrafts

1277. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

whether it is a fat that fighter aircrafts of military are meeting with accidents during the training in the country;

if so, whether their utility is assessed before they are made to fly; and

if not, whether Government would assess the utility of these aircrafts so that loss of national property could be avoided?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir. A few accidents have taken place during the training.

Yes, Sir.

A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Defence Forces to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Meassures to enhance the quality of training to imprcr the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of the pilots an <

being pursued. Constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), both indigenous and foreign, is also maintained to overcome the technical defects of the aircraft.

Manpower planning in ordnance factories

1278. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

the sanctioned manpower strength and existing manpower of ordnance factories, factory-wise and category-wise break up thereof;

the average age of employees in non-gazetted category;

the age profile of industrial and non-industrial employees specially in the range of 40-50 and 50-55 years; and

the manpower planning for next 10 years in the ordnance factories, keeping in view the age profile of the employees, new technology infusion and long term production planning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Armed Forces Tribunal Bench at Hyderabad

1279. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

whether Government would establish Armed Forces Tribunal Bench at Hyderabad for the convenience of massive Armed Personnel and in view of the fact that Hyderabad is having the largest representation of the Armed Forces personnel with several Army Core Head Quarters; various Military units and Army Formations including Air Force Academy at Dundigal (Hyderabad); strategically important Air Force Harkeempet and Air Force begumpet; biggest Eastern Command Naval Head Quarters (Visakhapatnam) and Air Force Flying units at Bidar; and

if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The Armed Forces Tribunal Act, 2007 (No. 55 of 2007) provides adequately for coverage of defence personnel and Ex-servicemen in the Southern States, as also from elsewhere in India. No decision has been taken **as** yet by the Government with regard to setting up of Regional Benches of the Tribunal.

Increase in temperature of Arctic Ocean

1280. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the temperature of Arctic Ocean has been increasing rapidly;